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Applicant(s): P. Bonutti

Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-014-8

Application No.: 10/003,996

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: November 15, 2001

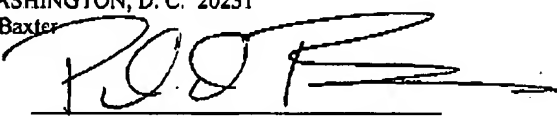
Examiner: J. Baxter

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TISSUE REMOVAL

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti

Confirmation No.: 8298

Application No.: 10/003,996

Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-014-8

Filed: November 15, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3731

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TISSUE  
REMOVAL

Examiner: J. Baxter

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

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## Introductory Comments

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 23, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file for the above-identified application. In accordance with USPTO practice, each section of this Amendment begins on a separate sheet. Claims 36-44, 46, 47, 49, 51-60, and 69-76 remain in this application and are submitted for the Examiner's review and consideration. In this Response, Applicant has amended certain claims and canceled other claims. Applicant believes these amendments, cancellations, and accompanying remarks serve to clarify the present invention and are independent of patentability.

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On September 23, 2003

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